**Mobile towers in Delhi**

405. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than double of the permissible number of mobile towers have been established in Delhi;

(b) whether there is information about the effect of its rays on health; and

(c) if so, the details of the provisions for its regulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Mobile towers are constructed/erected in an around the city by Service Providers to provide the adequate coverage to customers. However, siting clearance for erection of tower is issued by this Ministry (Ministry of Communications and Information Technology) from flying hazards and obstruction to any microwave link and other related technical parameters point of view. Hence, no specific limit has been defined regarding permissible number of towers in Delhi.

(b) and (c) The latest Fact Sheet No. 304 of May, 2006, of World Health Organization (WHO) States that from all evidence accumulated so far, no adverse short or long-term health efforts have been shown to occur from the RF signals produced by the base stations. Further a committee was setup under the Director General Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), as per the orders of Hon'ble High Court, Mumbai, to study the effects of radiations from mobile phone towers and related aspects. The Committee had studied the effects and concluded that 'overall there is not enough evidence to show direct health hazards of RF exposures from mobile base stations.

**Vacancies in Gujarat Telecom Circle**

406. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the sanctioned strength of employees and officers in Group A, B, C, & D in the Telecom Circle of Gujarat;

(b) the sanctioned strength and working strength in the post of PGM, GM and DGM in the Gujarat Telecom Circle as on 30th June 2008, cadre-wise; and

(c) since when various vacancies in the above posts are not filled in and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Sir, sanctioned strength of employees and officers in Group, A, B, C and D in Gujarat Telecom circle are as follows:—

| S.No. | Group | Sanctioned strength |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | A | 638 |
| 2. | B | 5307 |
| 3. | C | 22856 |
| 4. | D | 4903 |

(b) The cadre-wise sanctioned strength and working strength in the post of PGM and DGM in the Gujarat Telecom circle as on 30th June, 2008 are as under :—

| S.No. | Group Cadre | Sanctioned strength | Working strength |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | CGM/PGM | 4 | 2 |
| 2. | GM (Eng. Wing) | 33 | 27 |
| | GM (Fin. Wing) | 02 | 02 |
| | GM (Civil Wing) | 03 | 03 |
| | GM (Elect. Wing) | 01 | 01 |
| 3. | DGM (Engg.) | 87 | 54# |
| | DGM (Fin.) | 24 | 18 |
| | DGM (Arch.) | 01 | 01 |
| | DGM (Civil) | 04 | 04 |
| | DGM (Elect.) | 02 | 02 |

#Out of 54 officers, 36 and 18 officers are on regular and looking after arrangement respectively.

(c) The vacant posts are given as under:

| Sl.No. | Name of Post | Since when vacant |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Pr. GMTD Ahmedabad | 22.3.07 |
| 2. | Pr. GMTD (O) Circle Office, Ahmedabad | 1.3.08 |
| 3. | GMTD, Amreli | 25.9.06 |
| 4. | GM O/o PGMTD, Ahmedabad | 9.4.07 |
| 5. | GM O/o PGMTD, Surat | 17.1.08 |
| 6. | GM 2nd Post, Rajkot | 23.12.99 |
| 7. | GM (Marketing), C.O. Ahmedabad | 2.8.07 |

In respect of Telecom Engineering and Accounts and Finance posts, it is stated that keeping in view the fast changing business as well as technological scenario, need based promotions as well as outside recruitment had been done in the past and will be continued in future as well. Creation and filling up the posts are continuous processes.

**Telephone connections**

407. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of landline telephone connections, both by public and private service providers given across the country; and

(b) the number of mobile telephone connections, both by private and public service providers given across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The number of landline and wireless telephone connections, both by public and private service providers in the country as on 31st December, 2008 are given below:

| | By public service providers | By private Service providers |
|---|---|---|
| Landline telephone Connections (in million) | 33.03 | 4.86 |
| Wireless telephone Connections (in million) | 50.41 | 296.48 |

**Opening of new Post Office**

408. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several complaints have come up against Khabra Branch Post Office of Muzaffar Pur District (Bihar) concerning late/non-distribution of letters at Bhikhanpura Mohalla;

(b) whether it would be appropriate to open a new branch of Post Office at Bhikhanpura Mohalla and this suggestion have been given from residents too; and

(c) what are the requisite criteria for opening up this new Branch Post Office and by when the Government would be setting up of this new branch Post Office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. No complaint against Khabra Branch Post in Muzaffar Pur District (Bihar) has been received.

(b) and (c) Opening of new Post Offices is an ongoing process. Post Offices are opened in those places where there is demand and justification for Post Offices. Opening of new Post